



**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
RESEARCH DIVISION**

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**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL INVESTIGATORY COMMITTEE ON JEA
MEETING MINUTES**

**June 14, 2023
8:00 a.m.**

Location: Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st floor, City Hall

In attendance: Council Members Nick Howland, Sam Newby and Michael Boylan

Also: Council Member Matt Carlucci; Mary Staffopoulos and Christopher Garrett – Office of General Counsel; Colleen Hampsey – Council Research Division

Meeting Convened: 8:00 a.m.

Vice Chair Howland convened the meeting and the attendees introduced themselves for the record. CM Howland read the committee's charge from the Council President. He reviewed the special committee's actions from the previous meeting. At the SIC May 11th meeting, CM Howland sent a letter re-referring the first and second of its charges to the Ethics Commission and referring its third charge to the Ethics Commission for the first time requesting that the Commission seek information, gather facts, and otherwise investigate the relevant facts concerning the three charges. At the May 15th meeting the Ethics Commission voted again to take no action with respect to the first two charges referred to them but determined that it would refer the third charge to its Legislative Committee for consideration of possible legislative changes.

Christopher Garrett, Office of General Counsel, reviewed the OGC memorandum regarding the final report to the Special Committee on the Ethics Commission referral, dated June 5, 2023. The OGC report was prepared to reflect the status of the committee's follow-up request to the Ethics Commission and describes several action options for the SIC. Mr. Garrett listed the options described in the OGC report, including legislative changes, referral to the Inspector General's Office, defer SIC action to a later date, or close out the committee and take no action. The SIC members agreed that a referral to the IG or State Attorney was not appropriate. CM Boylan said that ideally whatever action taken would prevent similar issues in the future, especially as related to disclosures.

CM Boylan emphasized the importance of collaboration with the Ethics Commission on any legislative changes, and the possibility of a new committee to conduct those efforts. CM Boylan reiterated his idea (mentioned in the last meeting) that if, in the future, City Council committees or its leadership requests any form of disclosure of information by council members, apart from existing standard disclosures, the

OGC should review and set clear parameters for the disclosure. He recommended amending the Council Rules to specify that requirement.

Motion (Boylan/2nd Newby) – close out the SIC, issue report to the Council President that recommends identifying legislative changes, possibly through the formation of a new committee, in collaboration with the Ethics Commission – **approved unanimously**.

CM Carlucci suggested letting all of the SIC members, OGC and the Ethics Commission review the report prior to submitting it to the council president.

Public Comment None

Meeting adjourned: 8:14 a.m.

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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